

If such rejoinder is acceptable to the Examiner, Applicant desires to pursue the prosecution of claims 1-2, 4-14, 17 (original Group 1 claims) and claims 3, 15-16, 18-21, 28-29 (claims requested to be rejoined).

Traverse Of Restriction Requirement &
Request For Rejoinder Of Claims

Applicant respectfully submits that: (1) all groups of claims are properly presented in the same application; (2) undue diverse searching should not be required; and (3) all claims should be examined together.

Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 1 is generic, sharing elements respectively in common with individual claims 3, 15-16, 18-21, 28-29, and that the restriction requirement as set forth in the Office Action of September 13, 2005, is improper. Applicant respectfully asserts claim 3 recites common elements from claim 1 (*e.g.*, “a print producing method”, “a predetermined liquid droplet” and “degree of gloss”) and with claim 14 (*e.g.*, “different in the degree of gloss”), as well as an additional recitation directed toward “a predetermined liquid droplet reacting with a surface of a printing medium”. Thus, claim 3 is properly grouped with claim 1. Claim 15 has common elements between claim 2 (of Group 1 and dependent upon claim 1, *i.e.* 2/1) (*e.g.*, “a level of integrating”). Accordingly, claim 15 would be properly be grouped with claims 1 and 2 (and 3, if claim 3 is rejoined, based on common elements with claim 3, *e.g.*, “different”, “degree of gloss”).

Applicant respectfully asserts that claim 16 contains common elements with claim 1 (*e.g.*, “degree of gloss”, “applying ink”, “applying a predetermined liquid”) and also recites “a predetermined liquid is applied so that a condition of a surface of a printing medium are differentiated to form a plurality of parts different in the surface condition, the plurality of parts having different degree of gloss.” Accordingly, claim 16 is properly grouped with claim 1.

Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 18 and 19 have elements in common with claim 1 (e.g., “degree of gloss”, “a predetermined liquid”) and additionally recite the feature of a serial ink-jet printing process and the feature “the number of scan for forming a plurality of parts is differentiated so that degrees of gloss of the plurality of parts are controlled”.

Accordingly, Claims 18 and 19 are properly grouped with claim 1.

Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 20 and 21 share common elements with claim 1 (e.g., “degree of gloss”, “a predetermined liquid”) and additionally recite a serial ink jet printing process and the feature “different masks are employed so that degrees of gloss of a plurality of parts are controlled”. Accordingly, claims 20 and 21 are properly grouped with claim 1.

Claim 28 is an apparatus claim corresponding to the method of claim 2 (claim 2 depends from claim 1) and is properly included in group 1. Claim 29 is an apparatus claim corresponding to the method of claim 19 which is properly grouped with claim 1. As discussed *supra*, claim 19 has elements in common with claim 1 and additionally recites the features of a serial ink-jet printing process “... a plurality of parts is differentiated ... degrees of gloss ... plurality of parts are controlled”. Accordingly, claim 29 is properly grouped with claim 1..

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests that claims 3, 15-16, 18-21, 28-29 be rejoined to Group 1 and seeks their prosecution at this time.

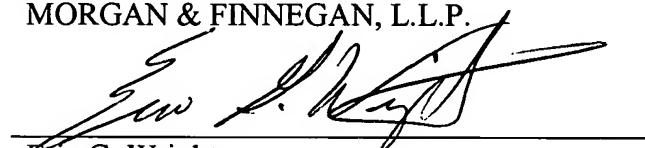
For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the restriction/election requirement should be withdrawn and an action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully solicited.

Applicant reserves the right of rejoinder, or to file one or more divisional or continuation applications to pursue protection of the scope of the non-elected claims.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5168. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.

By: 
Eric G. Wright
Registration No. 48,045
(202) 857-7887 Telephone
(202) 857-7929 Facsimile

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Correspondence Address:
MORGAN & FINNEGAN, L.L.P.
3 World Financial Center
New York, NY 10281-2101